Indonesia is vulnerable. With huge debts, the military government is more reliant than ever on the $5 billion it receives annually in aid.

Canadian Dollar out of Indonesia

The Government must stop promoting Canadian investment in Indonesia with taxpayers' money. This assistance allows the military regime to consolidate its power and finance its terror operations.

Write to External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall. She is your employee. Canada plans to give $46 million to Indonesia in 1992/93. Write Barbara McDougall (postage free) c/o House of Commons, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0A6, and send copies to External Affairs critics for the opposition parties: Lloyd Axworthy (Liberal), Svend Robinson (NDP).

Get Active. Keep informed. Join the East Timor Alert Network. Send $10 to #104, 2120 W 44th, Vancouver, BC to receive the regular ETAN newsletter. Computer networking: send your address to David Webster in Toronto (Email: etantor@web.apc.org). To get active, contact Dave McMurran at 734-7088 or Joanna Gislasson at 669-8950.

Spread the word. The battle for East Timor has been silenced for nearly 17 years. Let others know what External Affairs is determined to keep quiet.

UBC, SFU out of Indonesia. These and other Canadian universities are involved in joint programs with Indonesia, offering both the appearance of legitimacy and financial aid to the military regime. The Canadian International Development Association (CIDA) funds many projects in Indonesia to cement our friendly trading relationship with the dictators. Organise to break your university's link with one of the world's worst human rights violators.

Demonstrate. Join international days of action on November 12, the anniversary of the Santa Cruz Massacre, and December 7, the date of the Indonesian invasion of East Timor. Look for posters or contact ETAN at 734-7088.

TL495

EAST TIMOR: INDONESIA'S KILLING FIELDS

Amnesty International and other human rights groups report over **250,000 deaths** in East Timor—*over one third of the population*—since its invasion by Indonesia. The campaign of genocide continues to this day.

Indonesian President Suharto with assault rifle.

Canada is an important member of a coalition of western powers who have been protecting the Indonesian dictatorship from international censure, ignoring its contempt for international law, and, furthermore, actually helping to bankroll its atrocities.

CANADA'S COMPLICITY

What is our Government's Policy on Human Rights?

Canada Quietly Supports the Massacre

Dec 7, 1975, ten days after East Timor declares its independence from Portugal, Indonesia invades its neighbour. **An estimated 100,000 Timorese are slaughtered within six weeks.** Seven foreign journalists, including an Australian television crew are killed. These events are virtually unreported.

- The UN General Assembly demands a withdrawal of Indonesian troops.
  Canada abstains from the vote.

- Six months later, **Canada increases aid to Indonesia by $200 million.**

Since the invasion, Amnesty International and other human rights groups document massive human rights violations, **rape, forced abortions, mass executions, and torture.** Timorese are ruthlessly bombed in the countryside with napalm and white phosphorus.

- In both 1980 and 1982, **Canada votes against** UN General Assembly resolutions calling for Indonesian withdrawal from East Timor.

In 1984, Indonesia begins its brutal Operation Clean Sweep in East Timor and pledges to "crush the opposition without mercy." Survivors from the obliterated countryside have long been interned and starved in work camps. The Red Cross has reported tens of thousands of deaths.

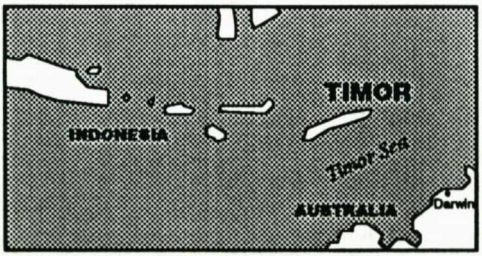
- That same year, **Canada hosts an arms bazaar** for Canadian weapons manufacturers in the Indonesian capital.

- As the death toll rises above 200,000, former External Affairs Minister Joe Clark says he is satisfied that human rights abuses have ended in East Timor.

"The most obscene abandonment of world moral order since the holocaust."
Noam Chomsky on the genocide in East Timor

Who is Opposed?

• **The East Timorese.** The people of the tiny island of East Timor have been resisting the occupation for 17 years. Forced integration remains a failure. Guerrillas under the charismatic leader Xanana Gusmao continue to struggle against the Indonesian army. Over 30,000 soldiers, police, paramilitary, and intelligence officers are required to enforce Indonesian rule. Under the most oppressive conditions, the Timorese have resisted and risked their lives to establish a conduit to smuggle information out of East Timor. Faced with world indifference, the Timorese have endured massive suffering under the Indonesian giant. Their struggle remains unrelenting.



East Timor, a small island north of Australia, was home to one of the few remaining tribal cultures which exist outside the global economy.

• **Parliamentarians for East Timor** is an international group made up of roughly 250 members of Parliament from over ten countries, including Canada, the UK, Japan, and Australia. Twenty-one Canadian MPs are members. This is a growing movement designed to lobby against current policy towards Indonesia and East Timor in their respective countries as well as in the international community. Lobby your MP to join!

• **The East Timor Alert Network.** ETAN is a grass-roots network dedicated to increasing public awareness and changing government policy. In cooperation with Amnesty International and other human rights organisations, ETAN organises events and publishes material across the country. The ETAN newsletter provides news on the international scene, and the latest information to be smuggled out of East Timor.

It is Up to us to Stop our Government

Who is Responsible?

• **We are.** Canada has been an important ally to the Indonesian dictators. Our government has offered both international legitimacy and considerable economic support. We have even sold arms to the Indonesian military. Most importantly, Canada has conspired to maintain the silence on the continuing genocide in East Timor. It is in this vacuum of information that Canada can maintain its self-image as peacekeeper.

• **The United States.** US cold war policies have set the stage throughout East Timor's tragedy. In 1965, the US supported the coup that brought Indonesia's current rulers to power. In 1975, the threat of an independent and unpredictable Timor neighbouring two important deep water submarine channels disturbed American nuclear planners. At the request of the American administration, the date of the invasion was delayed by one day to allow President Ford and Henry Kissenger to complete their scheduled visit to Indonesia before troops landed in East Timor. Twelve hours after his departure, when the assault had begun on Dili, Kissenger replied to reporters in Hawaii "the United States understands Indonesia's position on the question."

• **Australia, Japan, the UK, Holland.** Along with other western countries and the World Bank, these countries have acted to protect significant investments in Indonesia. This consortium (Canada and the US are members) donates nearly $5 billion a year to Indonesia. Indonesia's military government keeps the factories open and the people down. Indonesia's example is often cited as an instructive model for the third world.

"Thus, as I have said, if something similar to the 12 November [massacre] were to happen under my leadership, the number of victims would be higher."

Voice of Change? General Theo Syafei, military commander in East Timor appointed after the Santa Cruz massacre.

Nov 12, 1991: The Mask Slips

Nov 12, 1991, Indonesian troops **massacre over 200 unarmed mourners** in an East Timor cemetary in full view of several foreign correspondents. One New Zealander is killed, two Americans are badly beaten by the Indonesians, and crucially, *a British cameraman escapes with footage of the incident.* The massacre is widely condemned. Canada freezes $30 million in aid.

- In response to worldwide criticism, Indonesia replaces two generals and jails ten soldiers for 'disobeying orders'.

Along with much of the western world, Canada buys the Indonesian public relations exercise. Santa Cruz is a mistake. The New Zealand government agrees that Indonesia has shown "sincere remorse" over the incident. With remarkable displays of cynicism, official statements everywhere omit the fact that the only 'mistake' about the massacre *was that it was captured on film.*

- In a joint press conference with the Indonesian foreign minister, External Affairs Minister **Barabara McDougall** praises "the commitment of the Indonesian government to ensure the perpertrators among the military and civilians will be brought to justice."

- Note that the only *civilians* involved in the massacre were its **unarmed Timorese victims.** Eight survivors were sentenced to terms ranging from five years to life for "expressing hostility". Eighty other witnesses were quietly rounded up and executed.

Now that the public relations exercise is over,

Canada plans to give an additional $46 million in aid to Indonesia this year.

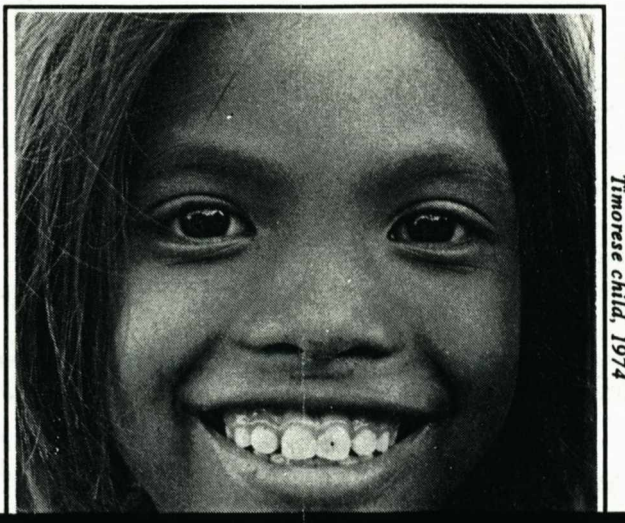
Why does Canada Protect the Dictators?

"What seems to be an obvious factor is the hundreds of Canadian businesses [involved in Indonesia]. ...It just goes against their economic interests."

Ed Broadbent, president of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development

Who is Indonesia?

Indonesia is one of the worst human rights violators worldwide. It is a rapacious colonial power bent on dominating the islands of its archipelago, wiping out their indigenous cultures, and stripping them of their resources. Indonesia is also very popular among multinationals and western governments. Labour costs (ie the standard of living) are among the lowest in South East Asia and domestic 'stability' is maintained by military control. With a huge population (180 million) and considerable natural resources, Indonesia is perceived to be a growing regional superpower: a Pacific Rim trading partner to court at all costs. Significantly, Canada is the third-largest investor in the Indonesian economy. More than 300 Canadian companies are present in Indonesia.



Timorese child, 1974

Indonesia's brutal regime survives due to massive aid and investment from the West. With more than $2 billion invested in its economy, Canada is also one of Indonesia's most generous donors.

Our tax money has been used to bomb this child's villages[1], massacre thousands like her[2], intern and starve thousands more[3], eradicate her culture[4], and actively prevent international bodies from challenging these atrocities[5].

Why East Timor?

economic and strategic interest

East Timor possesses valuable offshore oil reserves. These are currently being divided by Indonesia and Australia (Australia is the only country in the world to legally accept the incorporation of East Timor into Indonesia). Chevron, British Petroleum, and Shell are all due to begin projects this year.

Timor is situated beside one of the only deep water chanels through which American nuclear submarines can pass directly from the Pacific to the Indian Ocean. In 1975, the American government decided an independent Timor posed a security threat to its strategic interests.

1 Incendiary bombs and napalm were used to obliterate the countryside that shelters FRETILIN, the East Timorese resistance.

2 An estimated 250,000 Timorese have been killed since the invasion.

3 Hundreds of thousands of Timorese were routinely forced into detention camps where, the Red Cross reported tens of thousands starved to death.

4 Destruction of traditional village structures, forced relocation, a forced sterilization program, mass immigration of Indonesians, cultural indoctrination disguised as education.

5 Canada has not only voted against UN General Assembly resolutions calling for Indonesian withdrawal, but has **actively lobbied to have the issue removed from the agenda.**